

What Happened in 1914?

***The World Magazine*, August 30, 1914:** “The terrific war outbreak in Europe has fulfilled an extraordinary prophecy. For 25 years Bible Students have been proclaiming to the world that the Day of Wrath prophesied in the Bible would dawn in 1914. The Bible speaks of a ‘time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation.’ This prophecy of Daniel Bible Students identify as the ‘Day of Wrath,’ the ‘Time of the Lord,’ and the so-called ‘End of the World,’ references which are plentiful in the Scriptures.”

Edmond Taylor *The Fall of Dynasties*, (New York: Doubleday, 1963) p. 16.: “Looking back from the vantage point of the present we see that the outbreak of World War I ushered in a twentieth-century ‘Time of Troubles’ . . . from which our civilization has by no means yet emerged. Directly or indirectly all the convulsions of the last half century stem back to 1914: the two World Wars, the Bolshevik Revolution, the rise and fall of Hitler, the continuing turmoil in the Far and Near East, the power-struggle between the Communist world and our own. More than 23,000,000 deaths can be traced to one or the other of these upheavals.”

Britannica Great Books, *the Great Ideas Today* (Encyclopedia Britannica, Inc., 1963) pp. 107, 108.: “A world mesmerized by Science and progress mocked the mysticism of religious sects which had long predicted that the world would end in the year 1914; fifty years later the world isn’t so sure that it didn’t end in 1914.”

***Oxford Historian and Biographer* Rowse**, June 28, 1959.: “If ever there was a year that marked the end of an era and the beginning of another, it was 1914. That year brought to an end the old world with its sense of security and began a modern age whose chief characteristic is insecurity on a daily basis.”

“It is indeed the year 1914 rather than that of Hiroshima which marks the turning point in our time.” – **Rene Albrecht-Carrie**, *The Scientific Monthly*, July 1951.

“Ever since 1914, everybody conscious of trends in the world has been deeply troubled by what has seemed like a fated and pre-determined march toward ever greater disaster. Many serious people have come to feel that nothing can be done to avert the plunge towards ruin. They see the human race, like the hero of a Greek tragedy, driven on by angry gods and no longer the master of fate.” – **Bertrand Russell**, *New York Times Magazine*, September 27, 1953.

“The modern era . . . began in 1914, and no one knows when or how it will end . . . It could end in mass annihilation.” – **Editorial**, *The Seattle Times*, January 1, 1959.

“In 1914 the world, as it was known and accepted then, came to an end.” – **James Cameron**, *1914*, published in 1959.

“Thoughts and pictures come to my mind, . . . thought from before the year 1914 when there was real peace, quiet and security on this earth—a time when we didn’t know fear . . . Security and quiet have disappeared from the lives of men since 1914.” – **Former U.N. General Secretary, Konrad Adenauer**, 1965.

“The whole world really blew up about World War I and we still don’t know why . . . Utopia was in sight. There was peace and prosperity. Then everything blew up. We’ve been in a state of suspended animation ever since.” -- **Dr. Walker Percy**, *American Medical News*, November 21, 1977.

“In 1914 the world lost a coherence which it has not managed to recapture since . . . This has been a time of extraordinary disorder and violence, both across national frontiers and within them.” -- ***The Economist*, London, August 4, 1979.**

“Civilization entered on a cruel and perhaps terminal illness in 1914.”— **Frank Peters**, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, January 27, 1980.

THE IMPACT OF 1914 ON
ISRAEL, THE NOMINAL CHURCH, SOCIAL, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ELEMENTS

Start of USA and Russia becoming super powers.

Decline of Europe.

Fragmentation of former Empires, then of nations.

Monarchies were fading, this was the death knell.

Wars weaken morality.

The "Great War" ended up being in two parts.

The "War to End all Wars" did not.

New and growing world-wide fear and uncertainty.

Isolationism no longer feasible.

End of Colonialism, replaced with "foreign assistance" and "military intervention."

End of Colonialism and Empires lead to renewed tribal and ethnic conflicts.

Emergence of various forms of governments, ideologies, economic structures and their failures.

International Corporations, International banking, International social and health services.

United Nations and International laws and judgments.

Era of mass murder and genocide.

Spiritism goes mainstream.

Spy chiefs become super power leaders.

Chemical, biological, atomic and nuclear warfare a reality.

Medical advances contribute to longer and improved lives for many.

Greed and selfishness keep many from benefiting from said advances.

Increased science and technology contribute to higher criticism of the Bible.

Morality in Western Nations continue to decline.

Billionaires and millionaires increase as the middle class declines.

The Increase of Knowledge

1874	Light bulb
1876	Telephone, Gas engine
1877	Phonograph
1884	Motor car
1887	Celluloid film
1888	Kodak camera
1889	First Skyscraper in USA
1890	Data processing cards
1893	Cinematography
1894	Steam turbine ship
1895	Wireless radio, x-ray
1896	Radioactivity
1900	Quantum theory
1902	First Gramophone record
1920	Radio broadcasting
1926	Television invented
1927	Talking pictures
1928	Penicillin
1938	Nylon invented
1939	Calculator
1942	Nuclear reactor
1944	Digital computer
1945	Microwave oven
1946	Electronic digital computer
1948	Transistor invented
1953	Polio vaccine
	DNA discovered
1957	Space satellite
1959	Computer chip patented
1960	Laser
1961	Man in space
1965	Super computer
1967	Heart transplant
1971	First microprocessor
1972	Pocket calculators
1974	Test-tube baby
1975	Floppy disks
1977	Apple II first mass-market PC
1980	Videodisk
1981	IBM PC
1982	Compact discs
1986	Pocket Telephone
1989	Worldwide web invented
	Silicon chip
1997	Photos from Mars
	Sheep cloned
1999	Chemical reaction computer

Since 2000	Mobile Broadband
	Completion of the Human Genome Project
	Global Positioning System
	The Cloud
	The iPod
	Skype
	E-Readers
	YouTube
	Contactless Payment Technology
	Surgical Robotics

The Ecumenical Movement

1893	World Parliament of Religion
1910	World Missionary Conference in Edinburgh
1921	International Missionary Council formed
1948	First assembly of World Council of Churches (Amsterdam) brings together Protestants, Eastern Orthodox (including Russian Orthodox) and Old Catholic bodies
1960	Vatican formally recognizes Ecumenical movement
1961	The World Council of Churches unites with International Missionary Council
1962	2nd Vatican Council
1962-65	Protestants and Eastern Orthodox invited to Second Vatican Council
1964	Second Vatican Council's Decree on Ecumenism encourages Catholic dialogue with Protestants and Orthodox
1966	Pope Paul VI meets Archbishop of Canterbury
1968	Fourth Assembly of World Council of Churches. Protestants, Orthodox and Catholics
1969	Pope Paul VI visits World Council of Churches in Geneva
1992	2nd World Parliament of Religion
1995	Pope John Paul II's <i>Ut Unum Sint</i> reaffirms Roman Catholicism's commitment to ecumenism.

1999	Pope John Paul II's first Pope to visit Orthodox nations
1999	Catholics and Lutherans sign joint declaration on doctrine of justification, resolving some of the issues that led up to Reformation
2006	World Methodist Council adopts the Lutheran/Catholic Joint Declaration on Justification
2014	February 28: You Tube Video Pope Francis sends message for unity and prayers to Evangelical Protestant Kenneth Copeland by way of Anglican Bishop Tony Palmer. Copeland, together with other Evangelical leaders present, reciprocates. Copeland is invited to the Vatican. Copeland thanks God for Pope Francis, and says this would have been impossible 47 years ago.

The following headlines — all from the 1980s and 1990s — speak for themselves:

- Catholics and Evangelicals in the Trenches, new ways to share a foxhole in the culture wars
- Pontiff invites dialogue on role of Pope
- Pope praises Protestant reformers
- Pope urges new look at Luther
- Catholic-Anglican talks take a step toward reconciliation
- Episcopal and Lutheran Churches propose a union just short of merger
- Two Altars, one Mass
- Pope, top US Lutheran pledge efforts at unity
- Ecumenical Baptism
- Archbishop of Canterbury calls for Allegiance to Pope
- Pope Praises Christian role in collapse of Communism
- Nine US denominations one step closer to Rome
- Theologians recommend fellowship of 4 mainline American denominations
- Queen Elizabeth II attends Catholic Mass
- Russian Church and Vatican are seeking better relations
- Leaders ending 1500 years of official schism

A Time of Trouble

1914	World War I
1917	Communist revolution in Russia
1918	Flu epidemic kills 20 million
1920	Soviet Modernization will kill millions
1929	US stock market crash Great Depression
1936	Spanish Civil War
1939	World War II and Holocaust to kill over 6 million
1941	Japanese attack Pearl Harbor
1945	US drops two atomic bombs
1947	Greek Civil War
1949	Communists take over China
1950	Korean War
1958	Chinese revolution to kill 20 million
1961	Berlin Wall built
1962	Cuban Missile crisis
1965	Vietnam War
	India and Pakistani War
1969	Outbreak of trouble in Northern Ireland
1970	Pol-pot will kill 2 million
1973	Major famine in Ethiopia
1979	Invasion of Afghanistan by USSR
1980	Major famine in East Africa Iran-Iraq War
1986	Chernobyl nuclear power disaster
1989	Berlin Wall falls and so does Communism in the USSR and Eastern Europe.
1990	Persian Gulf War
	Civil war in Yugoslavia begins
2001	A devastating terrorist attack leaves 3,000 dead in America
2003	Invasion of Iraq by the United States
2004	Indian Ocean earthquake leaves 230,000 dead
2007	Global Economic Downturn
2011	Arab Spring Revolution Begins
2013	Syria uses Chemical Weapons against its own civilians
2014	One Hundredth Anniversary of World War I ISIS attacks Iraq Russia backs Ukraine violence

Israel, God's Time Clock

A 19th century poet wrote: The white dove hath her nest, the fox his cave, mankind their country, Israel but the grave...

- 1878 As a result of Benjamin Disraeli's efforts, the Berlin Congress of Nations decreed the amelioration of restrictions on Jews in Palestine, i. e. they could now own land.

- 1878 Joel Salomon bought a tract of land in the Sharon Valley 6 miles from Jaffa. He named it Petach Tiqvah (Portal of Hope). There were 26 initial families.

- 1882-1903 25,000 Jews entered Palestine. This is known as the first Aliyah (Ascent).

- 1897 First Zionist Congress took place under Theodore Herzl's influence. The concept of a sovereign Jewish State emerged.

- 1910 C. T. Russell wrote 12 articles under the title "God's Chosen People" published by a widely read magazine, "The Overland Monthly." This aroused a great deal of interest and lead to him being invited to the New York Hippodrome to address over 4000 Jews regarding God's promises to their people.

- 1914 World War I breaks out in Europe. This event culminates 2520 years of Gentile Dominion and Jerusalem being downtrodden.

- 1917 As a result of the ongoing conflict, the Balfour Declaration asserted that the British Government looked favorably upon the establishment of a Jewish National homeland in

Palestine. General Allenby frees Jerusalem from the Turks.

- 1919-1921 100,000 Jews were systematically killed by Ukrainian army units. Persecution intensified.

- 1920s Zionists such as Chaim Weizmann sought Arab cooperation as Jews settled in Palestine. Many Zionists envisioned a land where Jewish labors and investments to improve the land and life of both Jews and Arabs would be welcomed.

- 1930s No Arabs of any rank or power could be found to come to terms with. So local Arabs increased their rioting to the point that British Authorities enforced harsh restrictions on Jewish immigration, even trying to stop it altogether. At this very time the Jews needed to escape Europe all the more urgently.

- 1936 The Peel Commission of England decided that a partitioned Palestine would be in the best interests of all parties involved. They suggested dividing the land into three parts: 1) Jewish, 2) Arab, 3) An Enclave including Jerusalem to be administered by the British. The Zionists reluctantly agreed, but the Arabs totally rejected the plan. BUT this was the first recognition by a foreign power that a national homeland for Jews in Palestine was both practical and feasible.

- WW2 World War 2 put these discussions and recommendations of the Peel Commission in the deep freeze. Arab rejection and English attitudes of appeasement toward Hitler left them with little stomach for doing anything radically different in Palestine.

WW2	The World Zionists in the U. S. and Britain were almost unanimous—nearly militant—for there to be a homeland, a refuge, for the millions of suffering Jews in Nazi Europe.	1956	Along with French and British paratroopers, Israel engages in warfare with Egypt over Egypt's shipping restrictions through the Suez Canal. Israel occupies most of the Sinai Peninsula.
1939	The British issued a "White Paper" limiting Jewish immigration to a final 75,000. This, in effect, trapped Jews in Nazi and Stalinist Europe. The allies hemmed and hawed. The Arabs adamantly objected to a Jewish homeland. As a result, the Jewish people had to bring survivors from the Holocaust to Israel by clandestine means.	1957	In March, Israel starts withdrawing from the Sinai Peninsula and Gaza. In June the Arabs announce a boycott of all firms selling vehicles, goods and services to Israel.
1947	After much negotiating in diplomatic centers around the world, the Jewish Agency, though not a government, was admitted to the great debate. In November the question of what to do with the Jews was brought up at the U. N. A partitioned State was voted on. Jews agreed to it. The Arabs rejected it.	1964	The P. L. O. is formed at an Arab League meeting in Cairo
1948	The League of Nations' mandate for Britain, to rule over Palestine, ended. Israel declares its own Statehood on May 14 th .	1967	In May Nasser, President of Egypt, declares "the armies of Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon are poised on the borders of Israel." On June 5 th the 6 day war begins with Israel launching preemptive air strikes against Egypt's air force (which was on the ground at the time). They neutralize all of the enemy air power, leading to an Israeli rout of the Arab aggressors yet again, as well as the acquirement of land in Judea, Samaria, the Gaza strip, the Sinai peninsula, the Golan Heights, and, of course, the Old City of Jerusalem. On June 10 th Israel abides by the U. N. Security Council cease-fire demands.
1948	On May 15 th 6 countries attack the newborn state. Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia. 8 months of warfare ensue. Yet, Israel survives and gains territory.	1971	In October " The Third Temple " Bible Student production had a public showing at the YMCA in Jerusalem.
1949	In May, Israel is admitted to the United Nations.	1973	On October 6 th Egypt and Syria launched a coordinated surprise attack on Israel on YOM KIPPUR (the Day of Atonement). Israel was caught off guard, miraculously recovered, and actually gained more territory. On October 24 th a cease fire is implemented.
1949-1967	(18 years) Jordan bars Israeli access to holy sites in East Jerusalem.		
1950	Israel passes "the Law of Return" granting free and automatic citizenship for all immigrating Jews.		

1974	In May, Syria and Israel agree to a disengagement on the Golan Heights ending 81 days of artillery duels.	1986	Only four years later P. L. O. fighters re-establish strongholds in Tyre, Sidon and Beirut.
1975	The U. N. declares Zionism a form of racism.	1987	On October 13 th , President Chaim Herzog becomes the first Jewish Head of State since the ancient Kings of Israel, to read from the laws of the Torah beside the Wailing Wall. About 100,000 people attend. It would now take place every 7 years as prescribed in Deuteronomy. In December the Intifada (uprising) begins and continues to this day. Note: as of June 1992 500 Palestinian Arabs have been brutally murdered by fellow Arabs for suspected collaboration with Israel (i. e. favoring peace with Israel).
1977	In May, the Likud party wins elections. For the first time since Israel is a modern country, the Labor party is out of power. Menachem Begin is elected Prime Minister. In November, Prime Minister Begin invites Egypt's Sadat to address Israel's Knesset. He does that just 4 days later.		
1978	In the Camp David Peace Accord between Israel, Egypt and the U. S., Israel agrees to return the Sinai Peninsula with choice oil fields and naval bases.	1989	With the fall of communism, numerous countries start to establish diplomatic ties with Israel. In August the P. L. O. lists its goals of establishing an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capitol, making efforts to prevent Jewish immigration to Palestine, and its intention to further step up its armed struggle with the "barbarous Zionist entity."
1981	Israel bombs an Iraqi nuclear reactor to prevent their procurement of a nuclear bomb. Israel was soundly condemned by the U. S., etc. The P. L. O. has formed a 15,000 man terrorist army in southern Lebanon, heavily armed by Russia and Syria, with Saudi money. They mount hundreds of attacks against Israeli civilian targets.	1990	Jewish immigration to Israel (mostly Russia) soars to over 100,000 a year, the most in over 39 years.
1982	The Israeli ambassador to England is shot. In response, Israel's Air Force attacks 2 known P. L. O. bases in Beirut. The P. L. O. then launches a 24 hour attack on civilian centers in Northern Israel, firing over 1000 shells. The Israel mounts "Operation Peace for Galilee," ending in military defeat for the P. L. O. and expulsion from Beirut.	1991	In February Iraq fires scud missiles into Israeli civilian centers. Israel, responding to U. S. pressure does not retaliate—which is a first. The P. L. O. and Saddam Hussein voice their intentions of incinerating half of Israel. Jordan supports Iraq. After the Gulf War Israel and the Arabs begin continuing rounds of peace talks. On December 17 th a U. N. resolution equating Zionism with Racism is revoked. The vote

was 111 in favor, 25 opposed, 17 not voting and 13 abstentions. The closest countries in favor of Israel were Cyprus and Italy.

1992 In June, the Labor party sweeps back into power after 15 years. Yitzhak Rabin is elected Prime Minister. Some feel a shift to secularism is in store. In August, Prime Minister Rabin suggests the possibility of territorial concessions with Syria on the Golan Heights. A heated debate among Israelis continues. He slows work on settlements in Judea and Samaria. He wins a promise of 10 Billion Dollars in loan guarantees, or co-signments. On September 26th Israel's population growth is half of what it was in 1991, or 5,155,500. Immigration stalls, which is blamed on several different factors.

1992 In late October, early November, Israel formally receives the first Hebrew version of the Bible Students Audio/Visual presentation, "Israel Born to Destiny."

2000 Outbreak of widespread Palestinian violence, "Second Intifada" begins

2006 Hezbollah sparks the second Lebanon War when they cross the border into Israel and attack an Israeli military patrol

2007 Hamas takes over Gaza

2008 In response to increasing rocket barrages Israel launches Operation Cast Lead against Hamas in Gaza

2011 Israel's "Iron Dome" technology operational. According to the leading developers, some of the missile components have been

taken from a toy car sold by Toys "R" Us.

2014

Operation Protective Edge. The goal of the mission is to destroy Hamas' infrastructure of rocket launchers, rocket-storage facilities, command centers, and leadership.

The Balfour Declaration (in its entirety)

Foreign Office
November 2nd, 1917

Dear Lord Rothschild,

I have much pleasure in conveying to you, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, the following declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations which has been submitted to, and approved by, the Cabinet.

"His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country."

I should be grateful if you would bring this declaration to the knowledge of the Zionist Federation.

Yours sincerely,
Arthur James Balfour